

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-07

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FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3652

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS MELBOURNE 2165

FOR EB/ORF/FSE - BOSWORTH AND EA/ANP

E O 11652 N A

TAGS EINV, BTRA, BEXP, AS

SUBJ: VICTORIA PREMIER HAMER TO LEAD TRADE AND INVESTMENT MISSION
TO U.S.

REF CANBERRA A-120 NOTAL

1. VICTORIA'S LIBERAL PREMIER RUPERT J. "DICK" HAMER ANNOUNCED AT LUNCHEON NOV 11 THAT HE WILL LEAD A HIGH-LEVEL TRADE AND INVESTMENT MISSION TO THE U.S. IN MID-FEBRUARY. MISSION, SCHEDULED TO BE IN U.S. FOR APPROX THREE WEEKS, CURRENTLY PLANS VISIT CHICAGO, NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, HOUSTON, PITTSBURG (BRUCETON), AND SAN FRANCISCO. VISIT DETAILS BEING HANDLED THROUGH VICTORIA PROMOTION COMMITTEE VPC) OFFICES IN MELBOURNE AND NEW YORK (NEW OFFICE: SYDNEY MORRELL & CO, INC, 152 EAST 78TH STREET, NEW YORK 10021) AND THE AUSTRALIAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK. THE VPC IS SPONSORED BY STATE GOVT AND COMPOSED OF LEADING AUST BUSINESSMEN WHO PROVIDE ADVICE FOR BENEFIT OF OTHER BUSINESSMEN, ESPECIALLY INTENDING INVESTORS. VPC PLANS CONTRACT FOR SPECIAL BUSINESS WEEK MAGAZINE SUPPLEMENT FOR FEB 18, 1977 DELIVERY DATE (COVER DATE FEB 28) TO PROMOTE TRADE, INVESTMENT, AND TOURISM TO VICTORIA AND TO PUBLICIZE THE TRADE MISSION ITSELF.

2. WHILE MEMBERS OF MISSION NOT YET DETERMINED, PURPOSE WILL
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BE GENERALLY TO ATTRACT MORE PRIVATE INVESTMENT INTO STATE AND

BROADEN INDUSTRIAL BASE AND, SPECIFICALLY, TO INVESTIGATE MOST
ADVANCED DEVELOPMENTS IN BROWN COAL-TO-OIL TECHNOLOGY, WHICH
IS, ACCORDING TO NEWS RELEASE, QUOTE VITAL TO THE LONG-TERM
SECURITY OF VICTORIA'S ENERGY SUPPLIES UNQTE. FYI: BROWN
COAL-TO-OIL CONVERSION IS KEY PROJECT HERE (SEE REFAIRGRAM
ARTICLE 5). SUPPLY OF BROWN COAL IN VICTORIA MORE THAN ADEQUATE
FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE ELCTRICITY GENERATION - ITS PRINCIPAL
USE - AND COAL TO OIL PROCESSING WOULD HAVE OBVIOUS BENEFITS
PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF DIMINISHING OUTPUT OF BASS STRAIT
OFFSHORE OIL FIELDS. END FYI.

3. MISSION CURRENTLY PLANS MEETING WITH ERDA, WASHINGTON
(DR SAMUEL GOUSE, DIRECTOR OF FOSSIL ENERGY AND DR P WHITE,
ASST ADMINISTRATOR, FOSSIL ENERGY) AND ERDA'S PITTSBURGH
ENERGY RESEARCH CENTER AT BRUCETON, PA.

4. WE WILL REPORT FURTHER DETAILS BY SEPTELS AS DEVELOPED.
POST CONTROL OFFICER FOR THIS TRADE MISSION IS DANA M MARSHALL,
VICE CONSUL.
BRAND

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